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Tony's Sobering Lesson

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TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT'S INSIDE WITH...

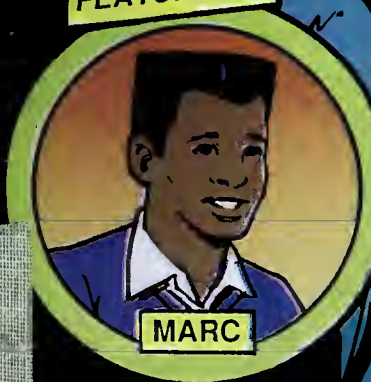


the INSIDERS

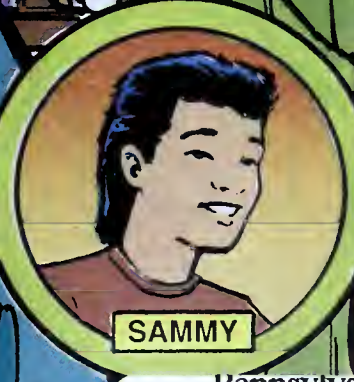
TONY'S SOBERING LESSON



FEATURING...



MARC



SAMMY



CHRISTY



ALPHA

it's time to meet...

the INSIDERS™

CHRISTY - AGE 11, LIKES ART AND GYMNASTICS. SHE IS LOGICAL, HIGHLY OPINIONATED, AND SOMETIMES STUBBORN.

MARC - AGE 12, TRACK TEAM MEMBER. HE IS KIND AND UNDERSTANDING BUT OFTEN TOO TRUSTING OF OTHERS.

SAMMY - AGE 11, LOVES COMPUTERS AND SKATEBOARDS. HE IS SMART BUT OFTEN FORGETFUL AND ALMOST ALWAYS LATE FOR APPOINTMENTS.

ALPHA - (ADVANCED LEARNING PROJECTED HUMANOID ADVISOR) HAS IMAGERY CAPABILITIES GREATER THAN ANY KNOWN TO MAN AND HAS ACCESS TO ENDLESS AMOUNTS OF INFORMATION.

LATE ONE STORMY NIGHT, THE **INSIDERS** WERE WORKING ON A SCHOOL PROJECT ON ARTIFICIAL COMPUTER INTELLIGENCE WHEN...

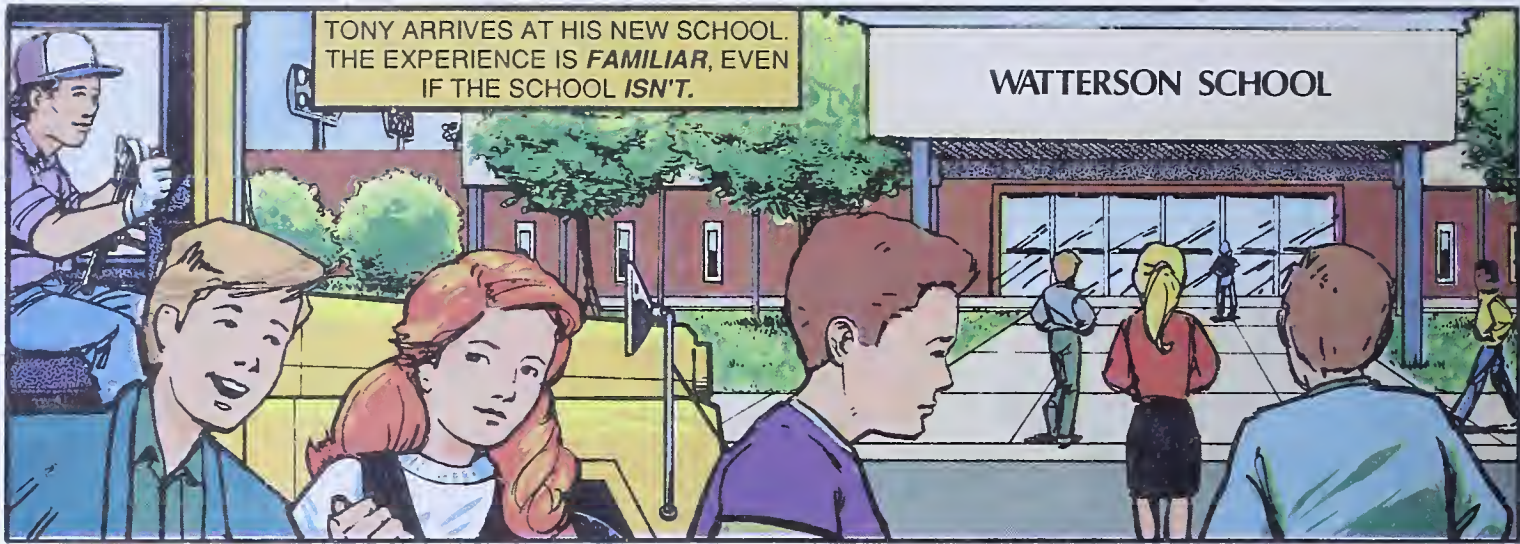
LIGHTNING STRUCK, CAUSING A POWER SURGE THAT AFFECTED THE COMPUTER.

I HOPE WE DON'T LOSE THE DATA!

WHEN THE RUSH OF ELECTRICITY FADED AWAY, **ALPHA** STOOD NEARBY. NOW WITH THEIR FRIEND, THE **INSIDERS** TEACH OTHERS HOW TO STAY HEALTHY AND TAKE PRIDE IN WHAT'S INSIDE.

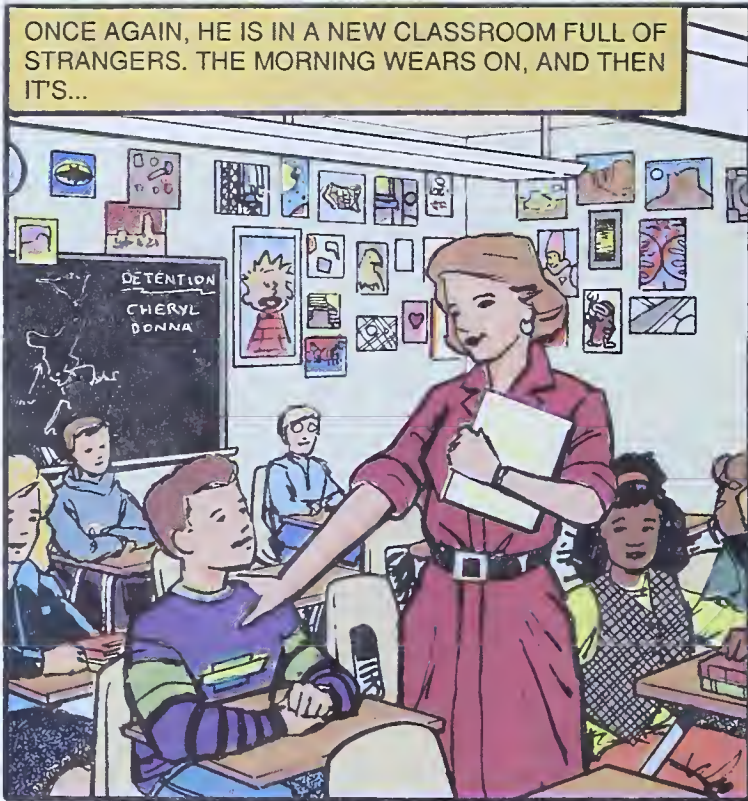
TONY'S SOBERING LESSON





TONY ARRIVES AT HIS NEW SCHOOL. THE EXPERIENCE IS *FAMILIAR*, EVEN IF THE SCHOOL *ISN'T*.

WATTERSON SCHOOL



ONCE AGAIN, HE IS IN A NEW CLASSROOM FULL OF STRANGERS. THE MORNING WEARS ON, AND THEN IT'S...



LUNCHTIME...

YEAH, MY NAME IS *TONY*. CAN YOU SHOW ME THE WAY TO THE *LUNCHROOM*?

HI, I'M *MARC*. YOU'RE *NEW* HERE, RIGHT?

SURE, THAT'S WHERE I'M GOING. C'MON.



HEY, WHO ARE *THEY*?

OH, THAT'S THE *OMEGAS*. THEY'RE *KINDA* LIKE A CLUB.

A CLUB! *WOW!* HOW DO YOU JOIN?

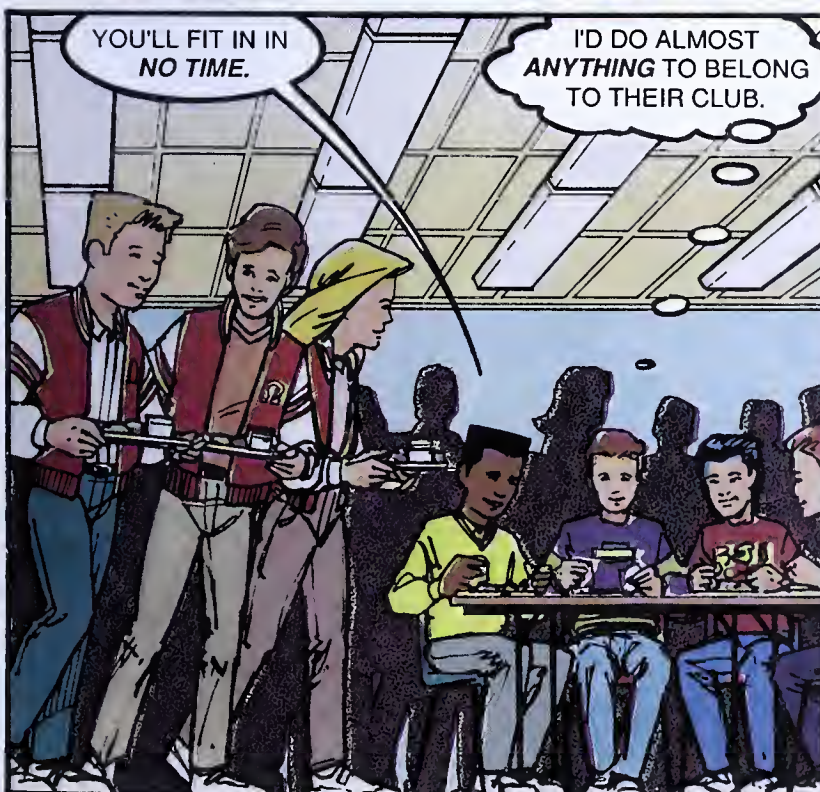
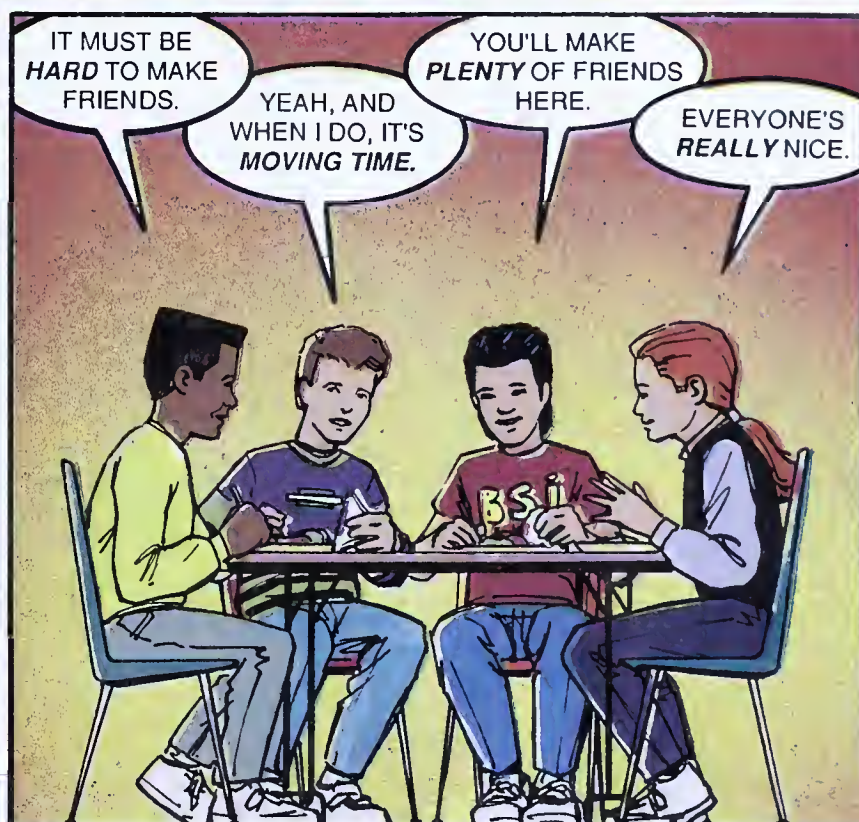
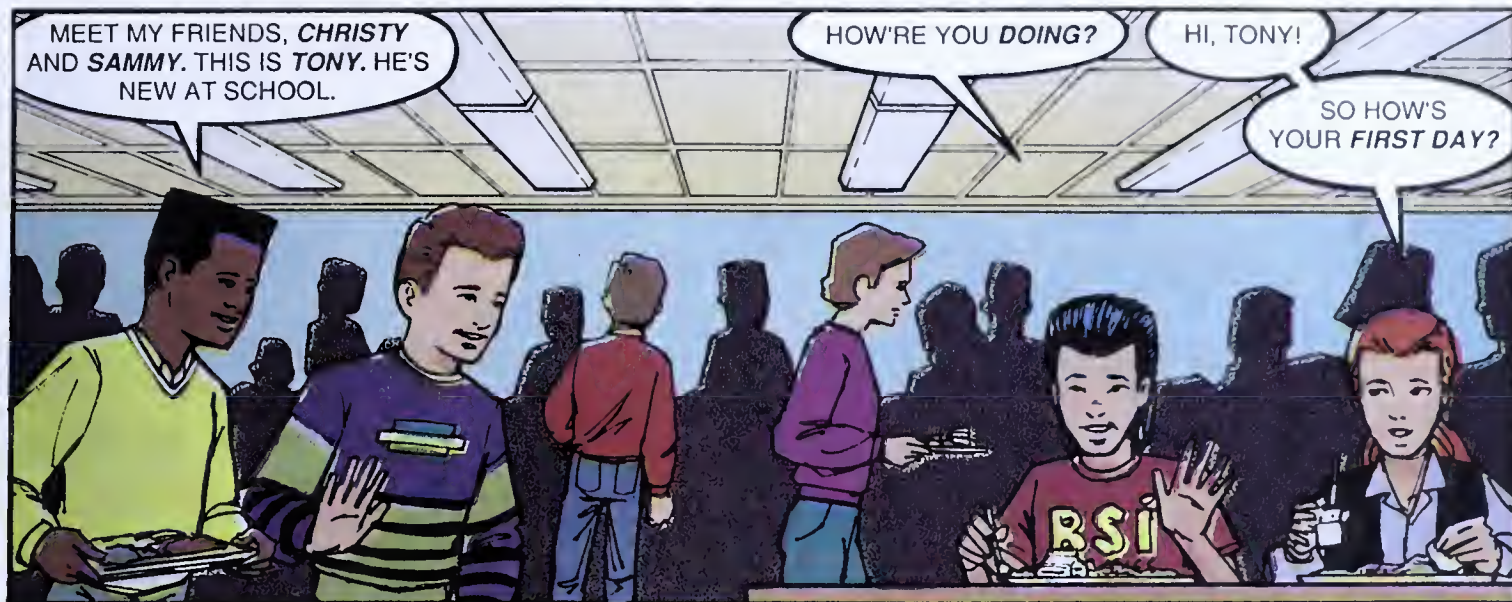
YOU CAN'T *JOIN* THE *OMEGAS*. THEY *PICK* WHO THEY WANT.

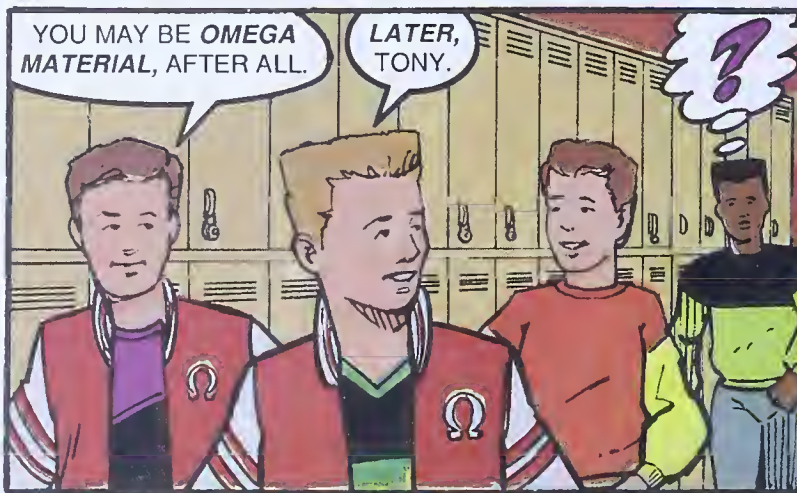
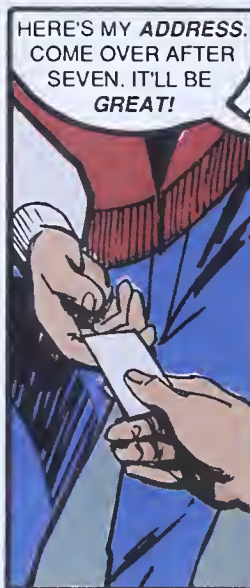
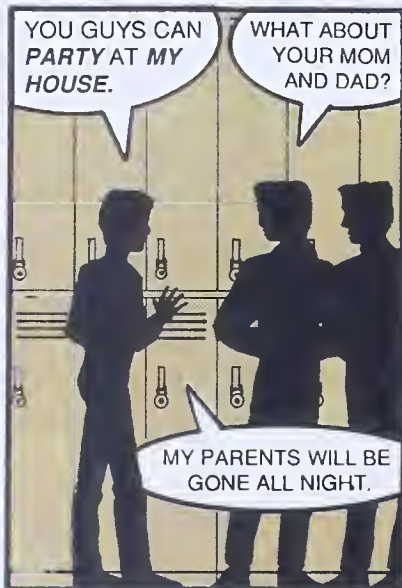
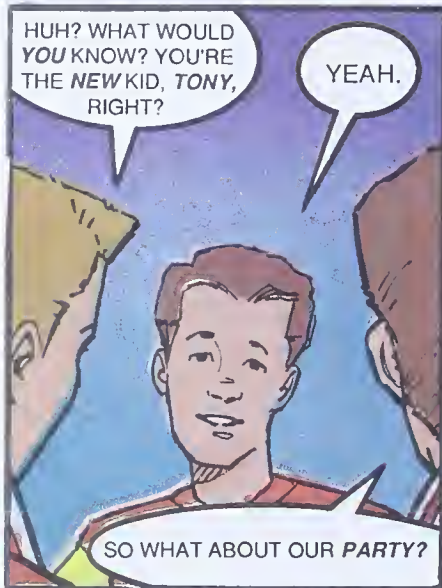


THEY *LOOK* FRIENDLY.

YOU THINK SO? THEY DO SOME *PRETTY BAD STUFF*.

IT'D BE *NICE* TO HAVE SOME *FRIENDS*.





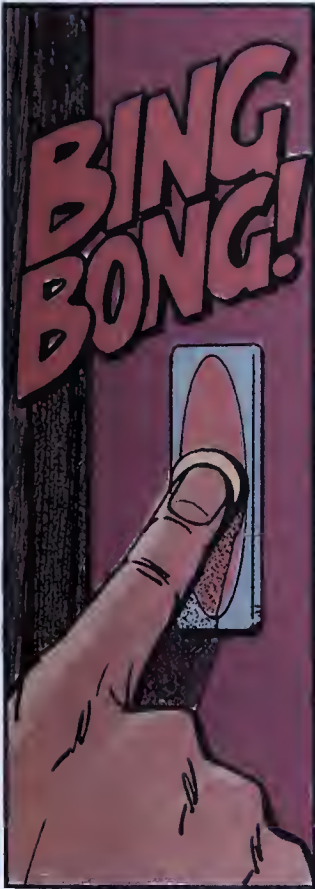


THAT SATURDAY NIGHT...

'BYE, SON.

DON'T WAIT UP FOR US. WE'LL BE **LATE**. THE SMITH'S NUMBER IS BY THE **PHONE**.

I'LL BE **FINE**.



HI, GUYS!
COME ON IN.



HEY, TONY! HERE'S THE **REFRESHMENTS**. CHILL 'EM DOWN, WILL YA?

UH--I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BRINGING **BEER**.



NOT JUST **BEER**, MAN. I'VE GOT THE **GOOD STUFF**.

WAIT, GUYS, MY FOLKS HAVE STRICT RULES ABOUT **ALCOHOL**. IF THEY FIND OUT...

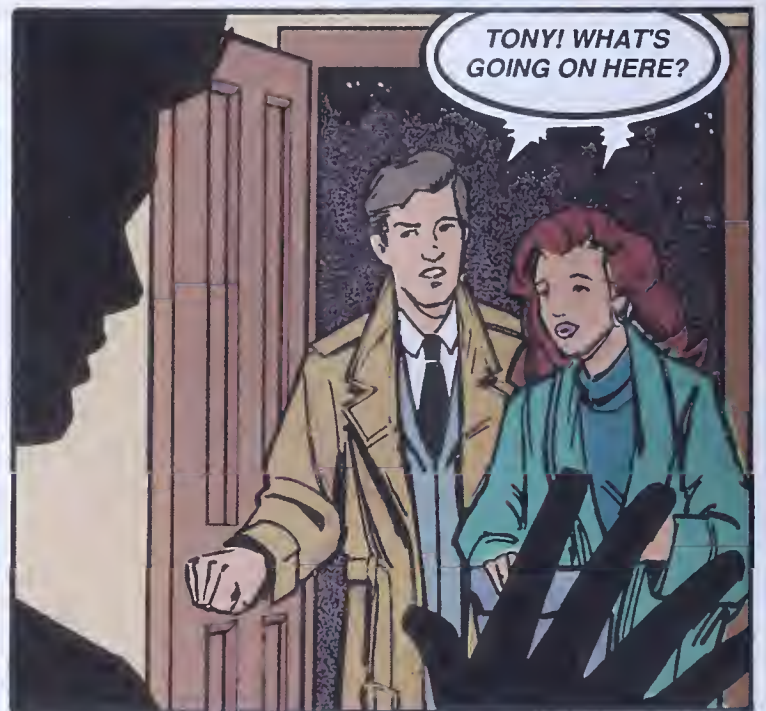
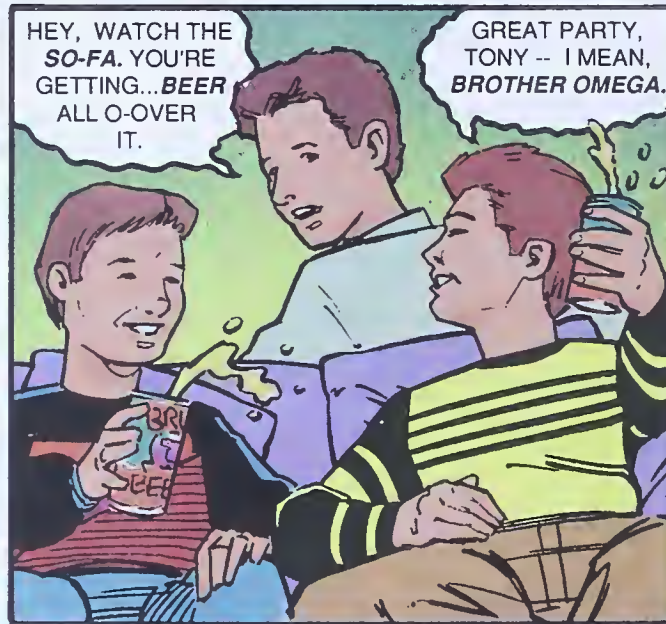
WE **THOUGHT** YOU WERE **COOL**.



OH! UH--SURE. **NO PROBLEM**. WHAT'S A PARTY WITHOUT **REFRESHMENTS**!

THAT'S **BETTER**. LET'S GET **STARTED**. GIVE US A **BEER**, TONY, AND GET ONE FOR YOURSELF, TOO.

YEAH. IF YOU WANT TO BE A **REAL OMEGA**, YOU HAVE TO START **ACTING** LIKE ONE. HAVE A **DRINK**.



OH MY! LOOK AT THE FISH TANK - THE CARPET AND SOFA!

MOM! DAD! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HOME SO EARLY?

"UH - OH!"

"UH - OH!"

"UH - OH!"

"UH - OH!"

"UH - OH!"

"UH - OH!"

EARLY?!! IT'S TWO O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING!

I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU KIDS HOME *RIGHT NOW!*

YOUR PARENTS MUST BE WORRIED!

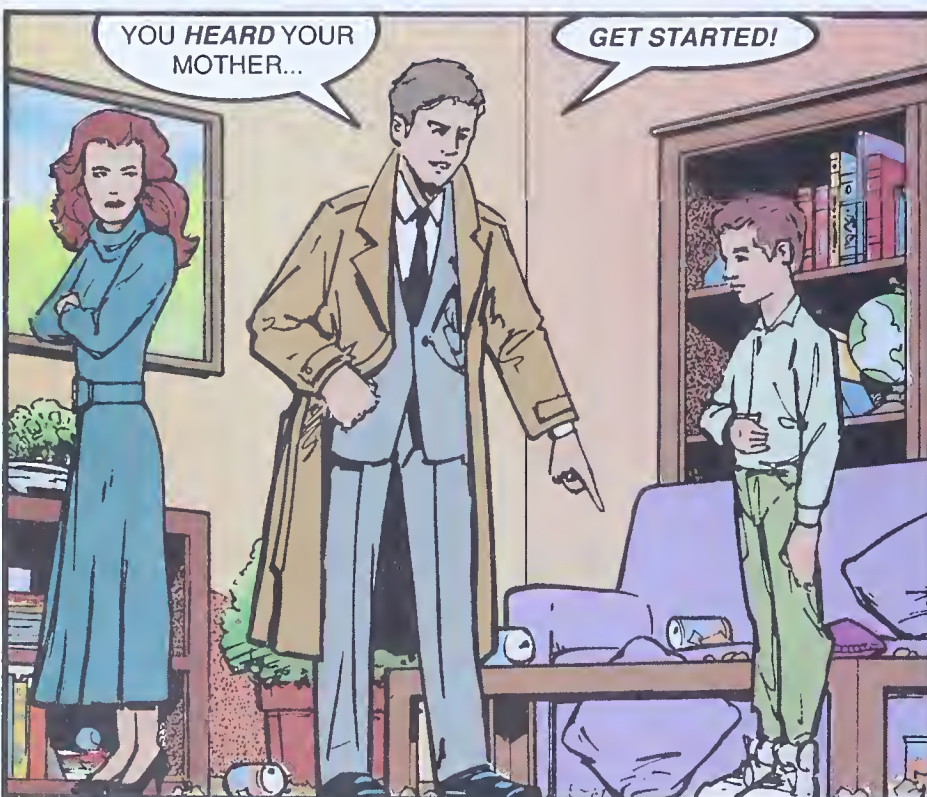
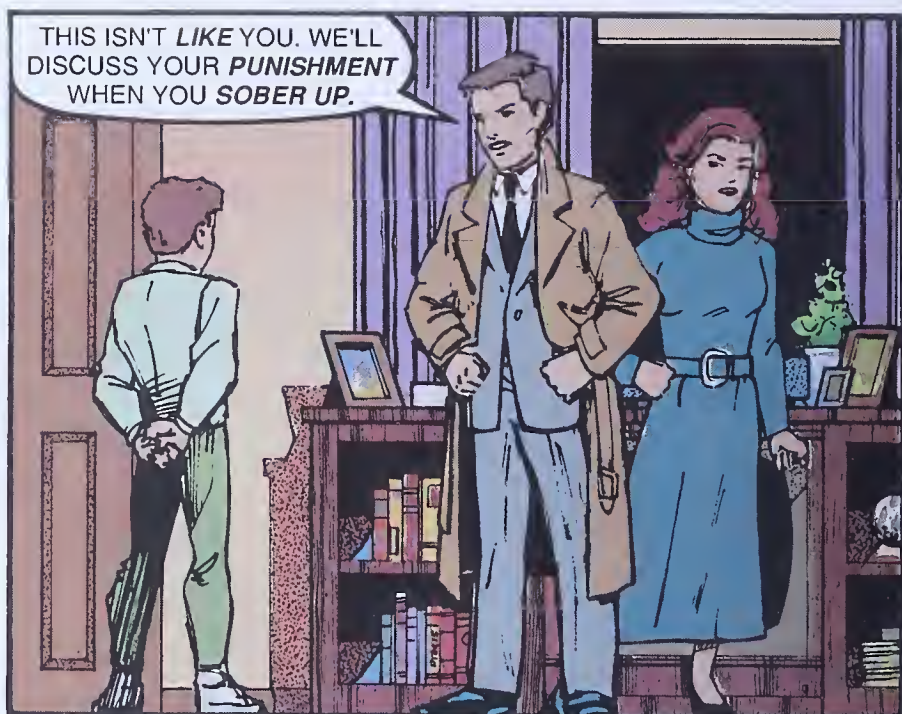
WHEN I GET BACK, YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO.

MAN, TONY! I *THOUGHT* YOU SAID IT WOULD BE *COOL*.

YOU JUST HAD THE SHORTEST MEMBERSHIP IN *OMEGA HISTORY*.

TONY'S DAD LEAVES WITH THE OMEGAS.

VROOOM!







LATER THAT AFTERNOON
AT SAMMY'S HOUSE...

HI,
GUYS!

WHAT'S HAPPENING,
MARC?

HI, TONY!
HOW'S IT GOING?

OKAY,
I GUESS.

TONY NEEDS TO
TALK TO ALPHA.

WHO'S
ALPHA?

YOU'LL SEE.

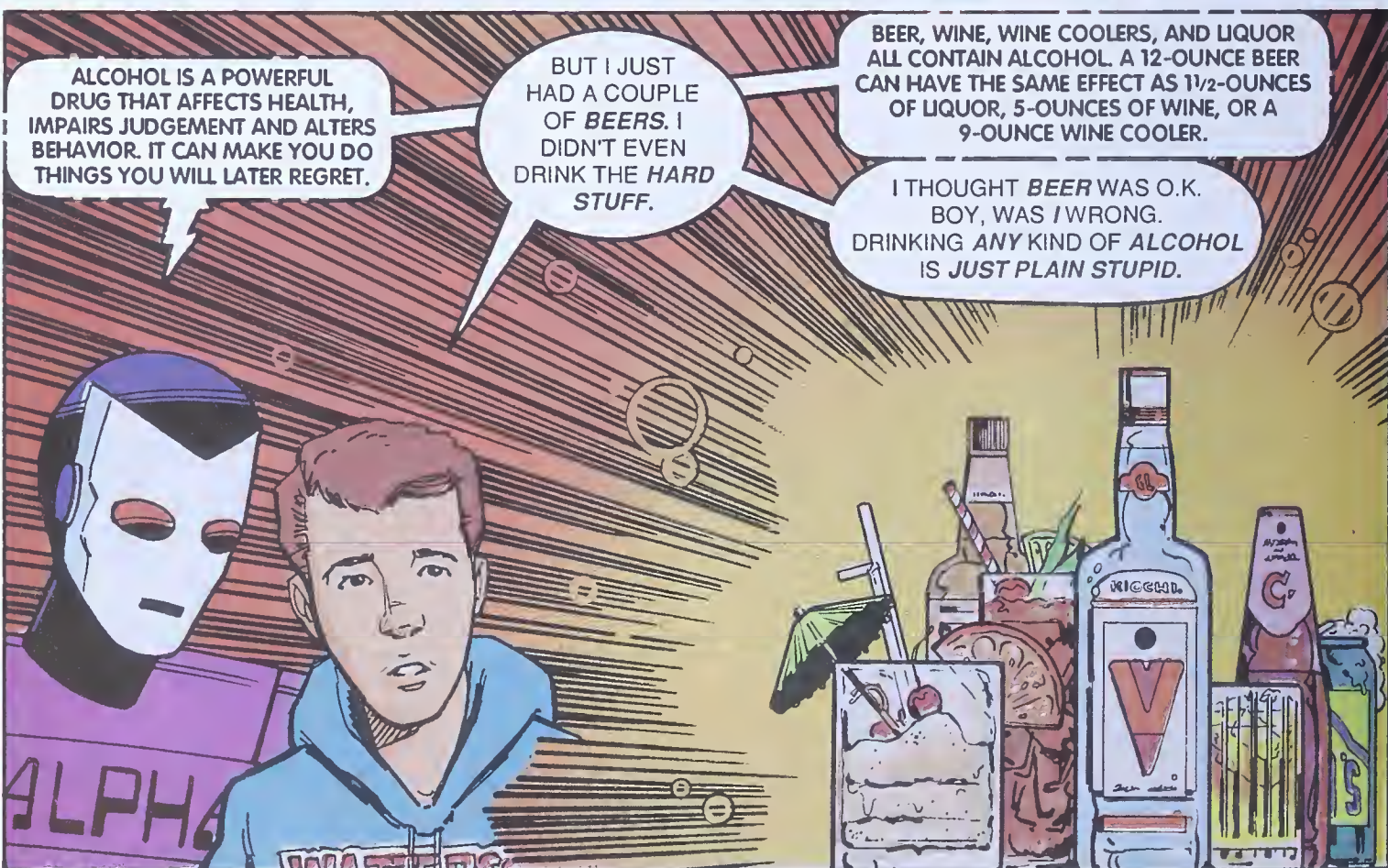
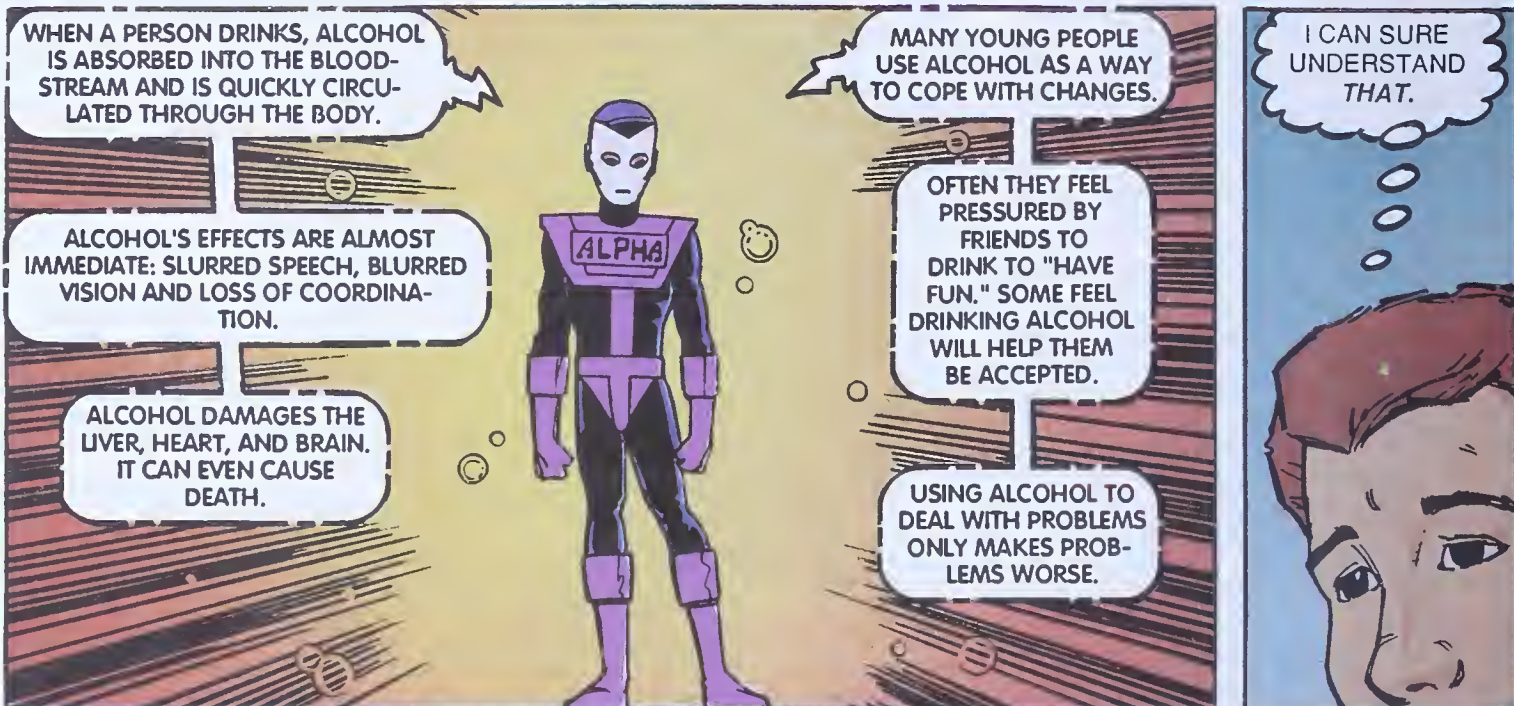
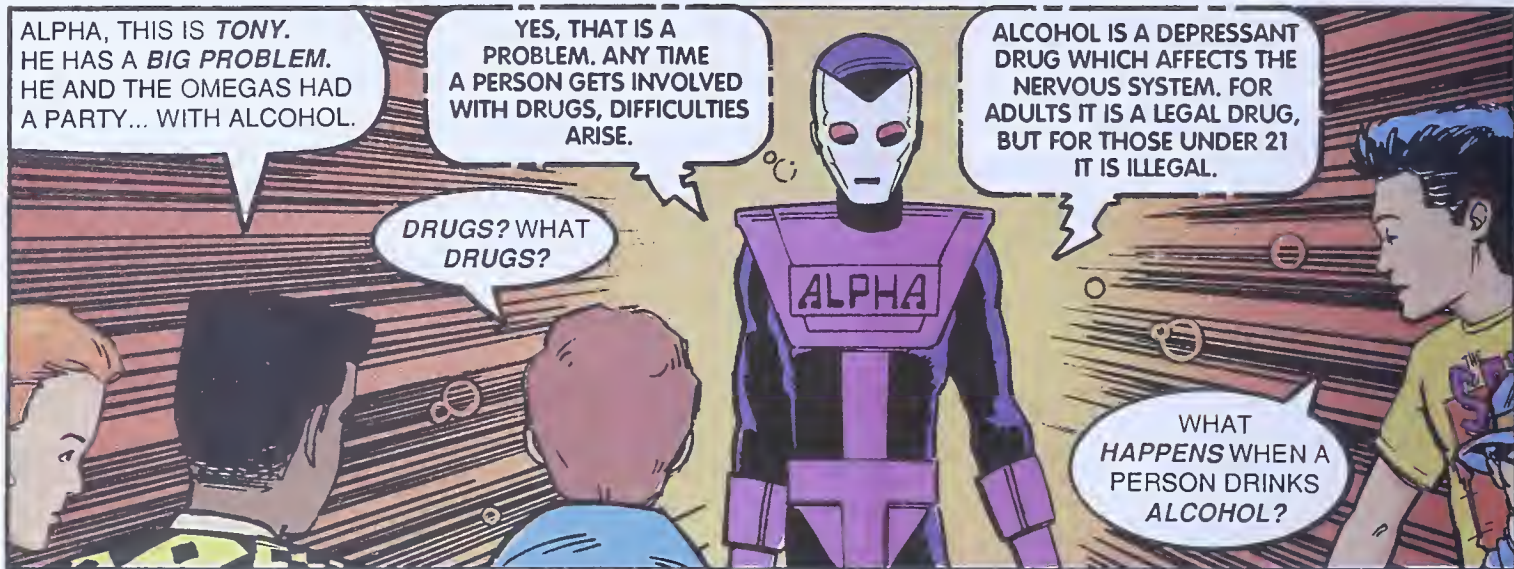
BEEP!
BEEP!

YEAH, HE'LL BE HERE
IN A FLASH!

FAS-SSP!

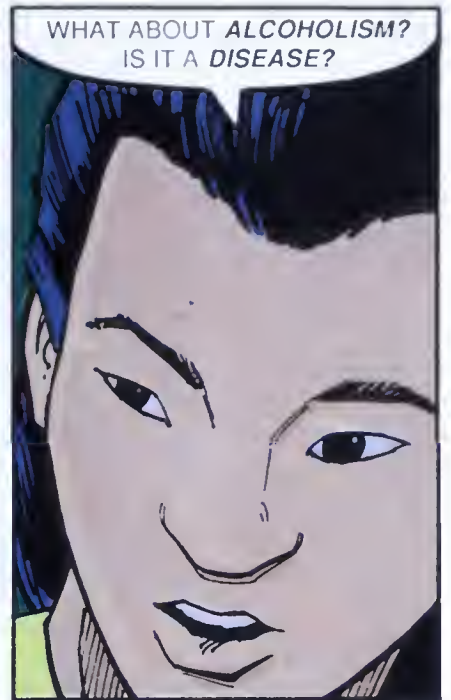
GOOD AFTERNOON.
I SEE YOU HAVE A
NEW FRIEND.

HOW MAY I
HELP YOU?





ALCOHOL IN ANY FORM CAN BE ADDICTIVE, ESPECIALLY IF A PERSON BEGINS ABUSING THE DRUG AT AN EARLY AGE. PEOPLE WHO USE ALCOHOL ARE MORE LIKELY TO USE OTHER DRUGS, TOO.

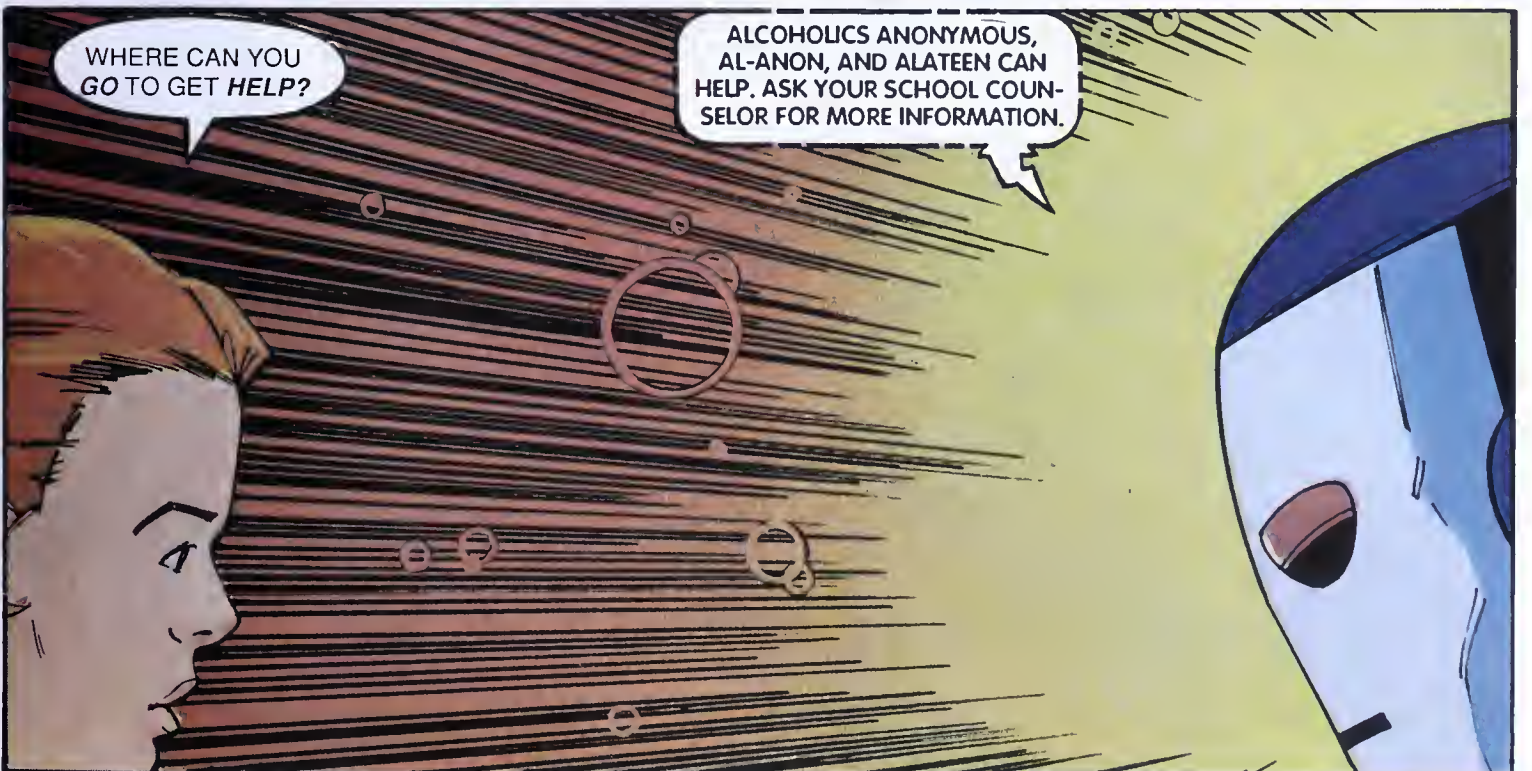


WHAT ABOUT ALCOHOLISM? IS IT A DISEASE?



YES. ALCOHOLISM AFFECTS THE ENTIRE FAMILY... BUT ALCOHOLISM IS TREATABLE.

TO GET HELP, ALCOHOLICS MUST FIRST ADMIT THEY HAVE A PROBLEM. THEN THEY MUST COMPLETELY STOP USING ALCOHOL.



WHERE CAN YOU GO TO GET HELP?

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, AL-ANON, AND ALATEEN CAN HELP. ASK YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE BEST WAY TO AVOID PROBLEMS WITH ALCOHOL IS TO SAY "NO" TO ALCOHOL.



TELEVISION PROGRAMS, MOVIES, AND ADVERTISEMENTS TRY TO MAKE YOU BELIEVE THAT ALCOHOL IS A REGULAR PART OF EVERYONE'S LIFE, BUT THIS IS NOT TRUE.

MANY PEOPLE DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL. CHOOSING NOT TO DRINK ALCOHOL IS AN ACCEPTABLE CHOICE.

I DON'T LIKE HOW IT MAKES ME *FEEL*.

I CHOOSE NOT TO DRINK FOR *RELIGIOUS REASONS*.

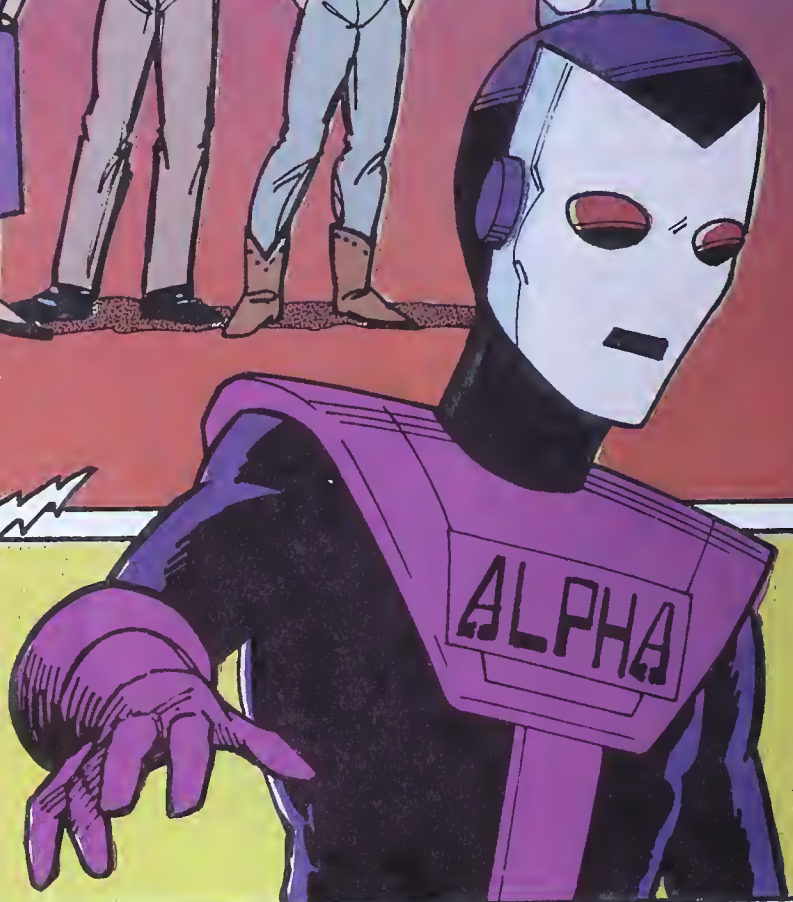
I'M *PREGNANT* AND DON'T WANT TO HURT MY *BABY*.

IT MAKES ME *SICK*.

I JUST DON'T LIKE THE *TASTE*.

I'M *DRUG-FREE* AND I'M GOING TO *STAY* THAT WAY.

NEVER FEEL PRESSURED INTO DRINKING ALCOHOL. THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH SAYING "NO". SAYING "YES" TO ALCOHOL CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.





the INSIDE TRACK

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

1. Why did Tony want to join the Omegas?

2. Tony felt that he had to drink alcohol to belong to the group. What was wrong with his reasoning?

3. List three beverages which contain alcohol and explain what happens to a person who uses them.

4. ALPHA stated that choosing not to drink alcohol is an acceptable choice. List five reasons why people say no to alcohol. Can you think of other reasons not listed in the story?

5. Tony knew bringing alcohol to the party was wrong. How could he have handled the situation differently?

6. Look in your local telephone directory and list the names and phone numbers of organizations which offer help to alcoholics and their families.

7. With whom can you share what you've learned today? Write what you would tell them on a separate sheet of paper and give it to the instructor.

Ask for these other exciting issues featuring ALPHA and the Insiders!

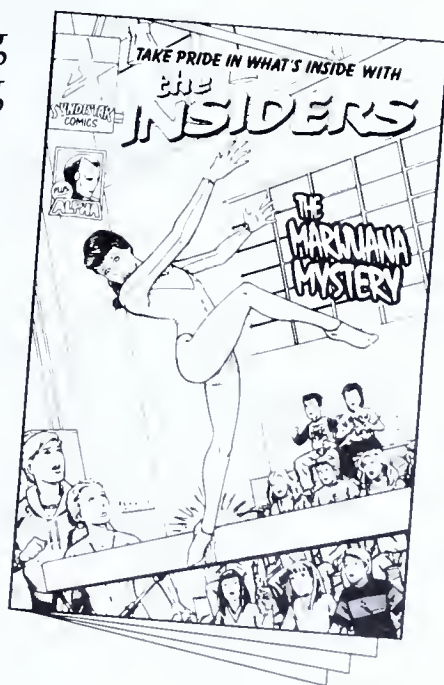


THE TOBACCO TEMPTATION

Russell and his friend are surprised when they are caught with cigarettes in the basement of the library. The Insiders and ALPHA confront Russell with the dangers of cigarette smoking and chewing tobacco. Students learn how advertising influences decision making.

THE MARIJUANA MYSTERY

Holly knew that smoking marijuana was bad, but refusing Mike's offer to smoke might ruin her chances of being asked to the Spring Dance. By smoking marijuana, Holly places herself in danger and jeopardizes her school's chance of winning the state championship. ALPHA explains how marijuana affects the body and helps Holly learn how to be a real winner by standing up for what she believes.





TONY'S SOBERING LESSON

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH

...in pursuit of good health

**Pennsylvania Department of Health
Research & Information Clearinghouse**

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